



returning the password to an application to gain entry to the application.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising:
  - receiving the input data;
  - determining if the salt value exists;
  - generating the salt value and storing the salt value in a table entry if the salt value does not exist; and
  - retrieving the salt value from the table entry if the salt value exists.

32. The method of claim 30, wherein the input data comprises a user

A1 identification and a strong password.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the input data further comprises an application identification.

34. The method of claim 32, further comprising determining if a new strong password is required; and
  - retrieving the new strong password if the new strong password is required.

35. The method of claim 32, wherein the strong password is used to generate a plurality of application passwords.

36. The method of claim 30, wherein the salt value is one of predetermined and generated by a random number generator.

37. The method of claim 30, wherein the salt value and the application are associated in the table entry.

38. The method of claim 30, wherein the application is run on one of a local computer system and a networked computer system.

39. The method of claim 30, wherein one of a secure hash algorithm (SHA-1) and a message digest (MD5) algorithm are used to generate the hash.

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40. The method of claim 30, wherein the generated password is temporarily stored in a memory for a predetermined time period.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein the predetermined time period is based on platform activity.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein the platform is one of a local computer system and a networked computer system.

43. A program storage device readable by a machine comprising instructions that cause the machine to:

generate a hash from a salt value and input data;

generate a password from the hash; and

return the password to an application to gain entry to the application.

44. The program storage device of claim 43, further comprises instructions that cause the machine to:

receive input data;

determine if a salt value exists;  
generate a salt value and store the salt value in a table entry if the salt value does not exist; and  
retrieve the salt value from the table entry if the salt value exists;

45. The program storage device of claim 43, wherein the input data comprises a user identification and a strong password.

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46. The program storage device of claim 45, wherein the input data further comprises an application identification.

47. The program storage device of claim 43, further comprises instructions that cause the machine to:

determine if a new strong password is required; and  
retrieve the new strong password if the new strong password is required.

48. The program storage device of claim 47, wherein the strong password is used by the machine to generate a plurality of application passwords.

49. The program storage device of claim 43, wherein the salt value is one of predetermined and generated by a random number generator.

50. The program storage device of claim 43, wherein the salt value and the application are associated in the table entry.



51. The program storage device of claim 43, wherein one of a secure hash algorithm (SHA-1) and a message digest (MD5) algorithm are used in instructions to cause the machine to generate the hash.

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One. 52. The program storage device of claim 43, wherein the generated password is temporarily stored in a memory for a predetermined time period.

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53. The program storage device of claim 52, wherein the predetermined time period is based on platform activity.

54. The program storage device of claim 52, wherein the platform is one of a local computer system and a networked computer system.

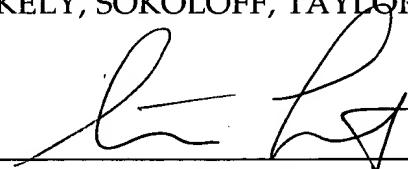
#### REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments prior to the initial examination of the above-captioned application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

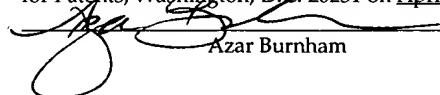
  
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#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 25, 2001.

  
Azar Burnham

April 25, 2001